

SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Aircraft Certification Service
Washington, DC



U.S. Department
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**Federal Aviation
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This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin alerts owners and operators of **Eurocopter France EC120B model helicopters** that there could be incorrect positioning of the tail rotor drive shaft damper clamps. This incorrect positioning could lead to interference of the two damper half-clamps with the drive shaft tube and cause scoring on the shaft. In time, the interference could result in tail rotor drive shaft failure.

Reference: Eurocopter Alert Telex
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Tail Rotor Drive Shaft Damper	#65A004
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Background

Eurocopter advised that a case of incorrect tail rotor drive shaft damper positioning was discovered during a maintenance operation. This incorrect positioning led to interference of the two damper half-clamps with the drive shaft tube and caused a score on the shaft. In time, this interference could result in tail rotor drive shaft failure.

Recommendations

- For aircraft serial numbers 1362 and lower, follow the recommendations contained in Eurocopter Alert Telex #65A004.
- If the two half-clamps (1) are not fully positioned on the friction ring (2) remove, check for scoring of the shaft and if required replace any unairworthy parts.

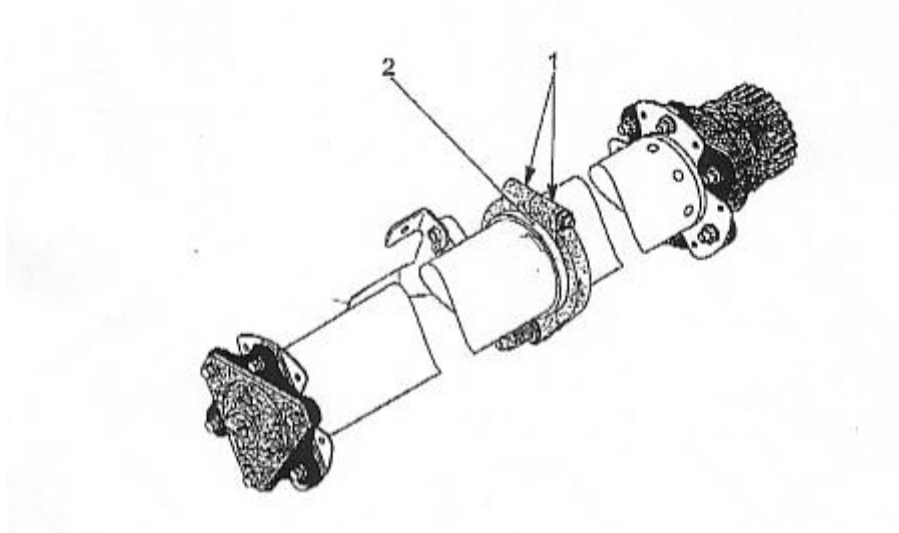


FIGURE 1

- An Airworthiness Directive is being considered.

For Further Information Contact

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